

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- {1} 1. (Currently Amended) A steam cooking apparatus ~~comprising~~ including:
- (a) a heating chamber in which food is placed;
 - (b) a steam generating device;
 - (c) an upper jet hole that is provided in a ceiling part of the heating chamber and through which steam supplied from the steam generating device is jetted toward the food placed in the heating chamber; and
 - (d) a side jet hole that is provided in a ~~lower part of~~ a side wall of the heating chamber ~~at one or both sides thereof~~ and through which steam supplied from the steam generating device is jetted toward the food,
- wherein a fan is provided for increasing strength with which the steam is jetted out through the jet holes,
- the side jet hole is provided in a lower part of each of side walls of the heating chamber at both sides thereof, and
- when the food is supported in a state floating above a floor surface of the heating chamber by supporting means, the side jet hole is located below the supporting means
- {2} 2. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 1,
- wherein, when the food is supported in a state floating above a the floor surface of the heating chamber by the supporting means, ~~and~~, through the side jet hole, steam is blown toward under the food.
- {3} 3. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1 ,

wherein the side jet hole is so positioned and/or directed that, when the food is supported in a state floating above the floor surface of the heating chamber by the supporting means, the steam jetted out from each side meets under the food.

{4} 4. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1,

wherein steam generated by the steam generating device is introduced into a sub-cavity provided adjacent to the heating chamber, the steam is then heated inside the sub-cavity by heating means, and the so heated steam is then distributed between the upper jet hole and the side jet hole.

{5} 5. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 4,
wherein the steam heated inside the sub-cavity is guided to the side jet hole through a duct formed of a pipe.

{6} 6. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 4,
wherein the sub-cavity is provided in the ceiling part of the heating chamber.

{7} 7. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 6,
wherein the upper jet hole is provided in a floor panel of the sub-cavity.

{8} 8. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 1,
wherein a total area of the side jet hole is larger than a total area of the upper jet hole.

9. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 2,

wherein the side jet hole is so positioned and/or directed that, when the food is supported in a state floating above the floor surface of the heating chamber by the supporting means, the steam jetted out from each side meets under the food.

10. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 2,
wherein steam generated by the steam generating device is introduced into a sub-cavity provided adjacent to the heating chamber, the steam is then heated inside the sub-cavity by heating means, and the so heated steam is then distributed between the upper jet hole and the side jet hole.
11. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 3,
wherein steam generated by the steam generating device is introduced into a sub-cavity provided adjacent to the heating chamber, the steam is then heated inside the sub-cavity by heating means, and the so heated steam is then distributed between the upper jet hole and the side jet hole.
12. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 10,
wherein the steam heated inside the sub-cavity is guided to the side jet hole through a duct formed of a pipe.
13. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 11,
wherein the steam heated inside the sub-cavity is guided to the side jet hole through a duct formed of a pipe.
14. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 10,
wherein the sub-cavity is provided in the ceiling part of the heating chamber.
15. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 11,

wherein the sub-cavity is provided in the ceiling part of the heating chamber.

16. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 14,

wherein the upper jet hole is provided in a floor panel of the sub-cavity.

17. (New) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 15,

wherein the upper jet hole is provided in a floor panel of the sub-cavity.